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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



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THE

Annual Report

FOR THE YEAR 1942

of the

Medical Officer of Health

A. PENMAN,
M.D., Ch.B. D.P.H.

.....

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
NETHER HALL, DONCASTER.



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Doncaster Rural District Council.

Public Health Department,
Nether Hall,
DONCASTER.

August, 1943.

To The Chairman and Members of the
DONCASTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my annual report for 1942, incorporating that of the chief sanitary inspector and abridged to accord with the need for economy.

The death rate from all causes was low, the infant mortality the lowest ever recorded, the maternal death rate low in spite of a comparatively high birth rate, and the position with regard to tuberculosis did not deteriorate although the steady improvement of the pre-war years was not maintained.

There was a decline in the notifications of measles and whooping cough, while other infectious diseases were below their normal endemic levels, particularly diphtheria, the incidence of which is beginning to reflect the better state of immunity among the population of susceptible years. This state of immunity is capable of being much improved. I have drawn attention to the increasing tendency to treat selected cases of scarlet fever at home. This is a policy which I am encouraging and I hope that the accommodation at the Joint Isolation Hospital thus freed will be used for the treatment of more severe infections, notably pneumonia and serious cases of whooping cough.

Improvements in housing and water supplies, etc., were curtailed because of war-time restrictions.

Yours faithfully,

ARCHIBALD PENMAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1. MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

A. Penman, M.D., Ch.B. (University of Edinburgh), D.P.H.
R.C.P.S. (Edinburgh and Glasgow). Appointed 1935.

2 CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING
SUPERINTENDENT.

A. Reynolds, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Certificate for Inspectors
of Meat and Other Foods. Appointed 1924.

3. SENIOR ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR.

E. N. Pearson, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Certificate for
Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods. Appointed 1932.
Left for new appointment November, 1942.

4 JUNIOR ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR.

E. K. Smith, Cert. S.I.B., Certificate for Inspectors of Meat
and Other Foods. Appointed 1932.

OFFICES OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL:—

Nether Hall, Doncaster.

Telephone Numbers—Doncaster 3427, 3428, 3429 (three lines).

PUBLIC CLEANSING DEPOT OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Sunnyside, Kirk Sandall.

Telephone Number—Barnby Dun 58.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	73,755
Registrar-General's Estimate of the resident civilian population	49,280
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1942) according to rate books	12,648
Rateable Value	£248,660
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£984

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

LIVE BIRTHS—

	M.	F.	Total	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Population—20.8. (Birth Rate for England and Wales 15.8)
Legitimate	500	457	957	
Illegitimate	22	20	42	
	—	—	—	
	522	477	999	
	—	—	—	

STILL BIRTHS—

	M.	F.	Total	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births—33.0.
Legitimate	18	11	29	
Illegitimate	2	2	4	
	—	—	—	
	20	13	33	
	—	—	—	

DEATHS—

	M.	F.	Total	Death Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Population, 8.1
	232	168	400	

Death Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 population—11.6.

(Because of the difficulty of computation in war-time no comparability factor was supplied by the Registrar-General.)

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

CAUSE	Doncaster Rural District England and Wales		
	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
(a) Puerperal sepsis	0	0.00	0.42
(b) Other maternal causes	3	2.91	1.59
Total	3	2.91	2.01

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

					M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	17	37
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	—	4
					24	17	41

Death Rate of all infants per 1,000 live births:

(a) Doncaster Rural District	.....	.....	.....	41
(b) England and Wales	.....	.....	.....	49

Death Rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 39

Death Rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 95

Deaths from Cancer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50
„ „ Respiratory Tuberculosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
„ „ Other Forms of Tuberculosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
„ „ Whooping Cough	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
„ „ Measles	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
„ „ Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
„ „ Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0
„ „ Enteric Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0
„ „ Cerebro-Spinal Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0
„ „ Influenza	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
„ „ Pneumonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28

POPULATION.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the civil population in 1942 is 49,280.

BIRTHS.

There were 999 live births (522 M.; 477 F.) or 48 fewer than in the previous year, giving a birth rate of 20.8 per 1,000 of the population. The birth rate for England and Wales was 15.8.

33 still births were registered, 10 fewer than in the previous year. The still birth rate of 0.63 approached the level of that for England and Wales (0.54) more nearly than in any recent year.

DEATHS.

The 400 deaths recorded were 68 less than for the previous year. This gives a death rate (corrected for transfers) of 8.1 per 1,000. The estimate of the national death rate is 11.6. The age and sex distribution of the population of Doncaster Rural District as ascertained at the last census was favourable to low death rates and the actual rate has had to be modified by a comparability factor to compare with the national rate. No comparability factor has been supplied this year, but, presuming it to be the same as that given in 1940, the local death rate comparable to the national figure would be 10.5 per 1,000.

The principal causes of death were:—

		1942	Compare with 1941
Diseases of the heart and circulation	.....	121	116
Pneumonia, bronchitis, influenza, etc.	.....	60	76
Cancer	.....	50	56
Accidents (in industry, road traffic, etc.)	.....	29	40
Tuberculosis diseases	.....	23	32
Congenital causes (among infants)	.....	22	33

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Three mothers died as a result of child bearing. None of the deaths was due to sepsis.

The maternal death rate was thus 2.91 per 1,000 live and still births compared with 4.59 in the previous year, and 2.01 for England and Wales in the same year.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

41 infants died in 1942 before attaining the age of 12 months. Calculated per 1,000 live births, this gives an infantile mortality rate of 41, compared with the provisional rate for England and Wales of 49. This is the lowest infantile mortality rate ever recorded for the district.

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1933-1942.

Year	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
Rate for 1,000 live births	75	59	59	61	55	48	56	67	61	41

INFANT DEATHS, 1942.

Cause of Death	Total		Under 4 Weeks		4 Weeks to 3 Mths.		3 Mths. to 6 Mths.		6 Mths. to 9 Mths.		9 Mths. to 12 Mths.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Measles ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (including Gastro- Enteritis) ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1
Premature Birth	7	6	7	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Defects (Malformations, Atelectasis, and birth injuries)	3	3	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Debility and Icterus ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Developmental and Wasting Diseases ...	—	2	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis Diseases (Meningitis) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions ...	4	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ...	7	2	1	—	1	1	2	1	3	—	—	—
Other Causes ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
	24	17	10	11	5	1	2	1	6	1	1	3

More than one half of the deaths were due to premature birth or congenital causes indicating that further progress in the preservation of infant life is mainly to be hoped for in tackling the causes of ill-health in the mother and child in the ante-natal stage. Pneumonia and bronchitis accounted for a further third of the deaths.

The low infantile mortality rate is particularly gratifying since it has occurred under war conditions and at a time when a number of mothers are employed in industry.

SECTION B.

(a) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The following ambulances are available to subscribers:—

Location of Ambulance	Telephone No,
Askern St. John Miners' Welfare, High Street, Askern	Askern 243.
Brodsworth Miners' Welfare, Adwick-le-Street	Adwick-le-Street 3280.
Rossington St. John Miners' Welfare, West End Lane, Rossington	Rossington 36.
Pilkington Brothers, Kirk Sandall	Doncaster 2281.

Colliery accident cases are transported by ambulances provided by the colliery companies. They are not permitted to leave the colliery yards for any other purpose, so that they are not available for general work.

Civil defence ambulances may be used for street accidents only. One civil defence ambulance is earmarked for transporting maternity cases and the method of obtaining its use has been made known to all doctors and midwives.

A private ambulance may be hired at Hathers, Angel Garage, Doncaster (Telephone number—Doncaster 2617).

Two ambulances are maintained by the Doncaster and Mexborough Joint Isolation Hospital Board for cases of Infectious diseases (Telephone numbers—Doncaster 3427-3428-3429 and Conisborough 41), and the West Riding County Council provide ambulances at their various sanatoria for the transport of cases of tuberculosis when necessary (Telephone number—Wakefield 3781, Extension 354).

(b) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

1. INFANT CONSULTATION AND ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

The West Riding County Council is the controlling authority and has established clinics at:—

Location	Days of Attendance
Armthorpe Miners' Welfare Institute ...	Infant Consultation every Thursday afternoon. Ante-Natal Clinic second and fourth Tuesday in each month.
Askern Baptist Chapel, Sutton Road	Infant Consultation every Monday afternoon. Ante-Natal Clinic every Thursday afternoon.
Edlington New Church Hall	Infant Consultation every Tuesday afternoon. Ante-Natal Clinic first and third Thursday in each month.

Location	Days of Attendance
Kirk Sandall Congregational Church	Infant Consultation every Thursday after- noon. Ante-Natal Clinic first and third Monday in each month.
Rossington St. Luke's Church Hall	Infant Consultation every Tuesday after- noon. Ante-Natal Clinic first and third Wednesday in each month.
Sprotboro' Richmond Hill Schools	Infant Consultation every Monday and Thursday afternoon. Ante-Natal Clinic second and fourth Friday in each month.
Bawtry, 25, Council Estate	Infant Consultation every Monday after- noon. Ante-Natal Clinic second and fourth Wednesday in each month.

2. TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARIES.

The West Riding County Council maintain the following dispensaries for cases from the Rural District:—

- (a) 20 Christchurch Road, Doncaster: 2-0 p.m. to 4-30 p.m. each Monday with an evening clinic every third Monday 5-30 p.m. to 6-30 p.m.
- (b) Exchange Buildings, Market Street, Mexborough; every Monday at 10-0 a.m. to 12-0 noon.
- (c) 8 Goldthorpe Road, Goldthorpe: Mondays and Wednesdays 10-0 a.m. to 12-0 noon.

3 VENEREAL DISEASE CLINICS.

The West Riding County Council provide a treatment clinic for cases from the Rural District at the Doncaster Royal Infirmary:—

MEN—Tuesday 5-30 p.m. to 7-30 p.m.
Friday 9-0 a.m. to 11-0 a.m.
Friday 4-0 p.m. to 6-0 p.m.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN—Monday 4-0 p.m. to 6-0 p.m.
Friday 6-0 p.m. to 8-0 p.m.

No Infirmary Recommendation Form is required by patients attending this clinic.

(c) HOSPITALS AND LABORATORY FACILITIES.

As previously recorded.

SECTION C.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Of the 12,648 inhabited houses in the district about 11,400 are supplied from the mains of public Water Boards and 180 from

private estate supplies. The remainder are supplied from individual wells and springs.

All the public supplies are now chlorinated, but only one complaint was received regarding the taste.

The three public supplies were sampled on 51 occasions (Doncaster and Tickhill 17, Doncaster Corporation 28, and Pilkington Brothers 6) and the estate supplies on 6 occasions. All were satisfactory from a bacteriological standpoint. Two wells were similarly tested and found to be satisfactory.

A chemical analysis was made of Doncaster and Tickhill Joint Water Board's supply, a copy of which has been supplied to me by Mr. P. Hempel, Water Engineer:—

			Sample from Austerfield Pumping Station			
Total Solids	.....	.....	18.48	parts per 100,000		
Free Ammonia	.....	.....	.001	„	„	„
Albuminoid						
Ammonia	.....	.....	None	„	„	„
Chlorides	.....	.....	2.30	„	„	„
Nitrites	.....	.....	None	„	„	„
Nitrates	.....	.....	0.20	„	„	„
Total Hardness	.....	.....	15.00			
Temporary						
Hardness	.....	.....	11.1	„	„	„
Permanent						
Hardness	.....	.....	3.9	„	„	„
Lead	.....	.....	None	„	„	„
pH. Value	.....	.....	7.2	„	„	„

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

There was no important extension of sewers and no new sewage schemes.

The existing sewage disposal works have been maintained in a satisfactory manner and without serious complaint from the West Riding Rivers Board.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Summary of Existing Accommodation.

Number of privies with open or covered middens	715
Number of pail or tub closets	902
Number of water closets	10992
Number of waste water closets	6

Conversions during the year:

Privies reconstructed as water closets	2
Privies reconstructed as pail closets	2
Pail closets reconstructed as water closets	—

Water closets provided in new houses during 1941..... —

REPORT UPON PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICES.

(1) GENERAL.

The emptying and disposal of the contents of dustbins, pail closets, privy middens and ashpits is undertaken in the following twenty-five parishes:—Adwick-on-Dearne, Armthorpe, Askern, Austerfield, Barnborough, Barnby Dun-with-Kirk Sandall, Bawtry, Braithwell, Brodsworth, Burghwallis, Cantley, Conisborough Parks, Old Denaby, Edlington, Hooton Pagnell, Loversall, Marr, High Melton, Norton (including Campsall and Sutton), Owston, Rossington, Sprotborough, Stainton, Wadworth and Warmsworth.

Cesspool emptying is carried out in the following sixteen parishes:—Armthorpe, Austerfield, Askern, Bawtry, Brodsworth, Braithwell, Barnborough, Burghwallis, Cantley, Edlington, High Melton, Norton (including Campsall and Sutton), Owston, Sprotborough, Rossington and Wadworth.

Street cleansing operates in the parishes of Armthorpe, Askern, Edlington, Rossington and Warmsworth.

Salvage is collected in all the parishes so far mentioned. In the ten parishes where Public Cleansing is not yet undertaken, special collections of salvage are undertaken as and when required.

Refuse disposal sites are situated at Askern, Armthorpe, Brodsworth, Bawtry, Cantley, Edlington and Rossington.

The Public Cleansing Depot at Kirk Sandall houses all the vehicles and all salvaged materials, with the exception of tins which are dealt with there prior to sale.

(2) VEHICLES.

The fleet of cleansing vehicles consists of eight covered refuse collectors, one open lorry, and two motor vacuum cesspool emptiers—eleven in all.

(3) LABOUR.

The Essential Work (General Provisions) Order, 1942, was made applicable to the Public Cleansing Department on 6th August, 1942. This greatly eased the problem of labour, but it has been difficult to replace good drivers who have left to join H.M. Forces. Considering the many changes the services have been kept up to a high standard.

(4) SALVAGE.

COLLECTED AND SOLD DURING THE YEAR
ENDED 31st MARCH, 1943.

Commodity.	Weight				Price Obtained		
	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Paper, Cardboard, etc.	229	17	0	0	1457	1	1
Tins	199	14	3	0	166	19	8
Scrap Iron	39	5	2	0	97	10	1
Non-Ferrous Metals	0	13	1	14	17	5	4
Textiles—							
(a) Rags	16	0	1	14	250	5	10
(b) Bagging	7	7	0	18	30	0	0
Cullet	31	14	0	0	69	11	9
Rubber	8	18	3	0	20	3	5
Bones	2	5	3	7	7	6	0
	535	16	2	25	2116	3	2
Waste paper purchased from various Organisations	19	12	2	0	58	6	3
Total Income from Sales					£2057	16	11
The corresponding figures for the year ended 31st March, 1942, were	509	11	2	0	1293	4	4

(5) WORK PERFORMED OTHER THAN PUBLIC CLEANSING.

During the year ended 31st March, 1943, the following work has been carried out:

	£	s.	d.
For Surveyor's Department—Carting of building materials and cleansing of sewers with cesspool machines	61	0	3
For Evacuation—Women's Voluntary Service	12	0	0
Total	£73	0	3

(6) COSTS.

The total cost of the public cleansing services was £13,588/0/0.

(Signed) A. REYNOLDS,
Cleansing Superintendent.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

STATEMENT made to the Medical Officer of Health in pursuance of Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and of Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926, in relation to inspections, notices, etc.

A. REYNOLDS, C.R.S.I., M.I.S.A.,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Total number of inspections, 1942	.....	.....	.....	3,888
Nuisances reported during 1942 (including provision of pails and dustbins)	.....	.....	.....	909
Nuisances in hand	.....	.....	.....	3
Total number of nuisances needing abatement	.....	.....	.....	912
Abated during 1942	.....	.....	.....	904
Oustanding at the end of 1942	.....	.....	.....	8

The total inspections above relate to—

Nuisances	.....	.....	1199	Meat and Food:	
Common Lodging Houses			2	Butchers' Shops	 10
Vans and Sheds	.....		12	Stalls and Vans	 1
Shops Act	.....	.....	76	Fish and Chip Shops	 14
Schools	.....	.....	22	Ice Cream Vendors	 2
Factories and Workshops			18	Bakehouses	 11
Drainage:				Infectious Diseases:	
Housing	.....	.....	22	Disinfection	 152
Public Health	.....		60	Investigations	 81
Public Cleansing	.....		949	Infestation:	
Salvage	.....	.....	328	Bed Bugs	 8
Water Supplies:				Other Vermin	 9
Samples taken	.....		41	Piggeries	 8
Samples investigated			30	Foods (unsound)	 66
Milk and Dairies:				Conversions	 25
Producers' Premises			123	Rats and Mice	 7
Retailers' Premises			48	Scabies	 287
Samples (graded)	.....		12	Air Raid Precautions	 107
Housing:				Hostel	 1
Section 9	.....	.....	124	Wartime Nurseries	 4
Section 11	.....	.....	3	Food Decontamination	 7
Overcrowding	.....		14	Evacuation	 3
Military Camps	.....		2		

INFORMAL NOTICES.

969 preliminary notices have been served relating to:—

Drainage and Conversions	54	Minor Housing Repairs	60
Nuisances, Dustbins and		Shops	 7
Pails	 786	Water Supplies	 15
Cowsheds and Dairies	6	Miscellaneous	 41

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

Houses disinfected	.....	180	Sections 10 and 13 (C).	
Rooms disinfected*	.....	325	No. of visits paid during	
School Notices sent	.....	248	the year	 76
			Unsatisfactory conditions	
			found	 4
			Remedied	 4

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

During the year six Council houses were found to be infested and were treated by Council employees. Other houses, owned by industrial companies, were treated privately.

Eight visits were made to houses following infestation.

SCHOOLS.

There are thirty-three schools in the District. The great majority are of modern construction or have been modernised. There are a few small non-provided schools in which conditions are not satisfactory.

Twelve schools were visited for the purpose of immunising school children. No school was closed for infectious disease, but 297 children, who were contacts of notifiable infectious diseases, were temporarily excluded for short periods.

SECTION D.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(a) By private enterprise	.....	.....	.....	0
(b) By the Local Authority	.....	.....	.....	0

Inspections and Notices:—

1. Number of inspections of houses for repairs	124
2. Number of informal notices to repair	 60
3. Number of statutory notices to repair	 0
4. Number of houses repaired following notices	54

HOUSING ACT, 1936, PART IV—OVERCROWDING

Fourteen visits were made for the specific purpose of investigating overcrowding and four new cases of overcrowding were thus discovered, all caused by sub-letting.

During the course of 213 visits to households with notifiable infectious diseases only one was found to be overcrowded.

At the moment the problem of relieving overcrowding is one of special difficulty because of the cessation of new building, the reception of evacuees and the requisitioning of houses for purposes relating to the War.

SECTION E.

MILK SUPPLIES.

The total number of registrations under the Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders is:—

Cowkeepers	.....	.....	224	Producer Retailers	.....	55
Cowsheds	.....	.....	267	Retail Purveyors	.....	25

Twenty retail milk purveyors with registered premises in neighbouring districts are licensed to retail milk in the Rural District area.

Number of cowshed inspections	.....	.....	.....	123
Number of milk premises and vehicles inspected	.....	.....	.....	48

During the year six cowsheds were reconstructed and one new shed was erected in accordance with the requirements of the Milk and Dairies Order.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936—1938

The following Licences were issued:—

Pasteurised Milk	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Supplementary to sell Pasteurised	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Supplementary to sell Tuberculin Tested	.....	.....	.....	.....	2

The most popular method of milking is by hand, but a few owners have installed mechanical methods of milking.

Structural conditions of cowsheds throughout the area are of a comparatively high standard.

MEAT AND FOOD.

During the year the following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and were voluntarily surrendered by the owners:—

3 tins of Apricots	1 tin of Picnic Roll
7 lbs. of Marmalade	45 tins of Pilchards
48 tins of Sausage Meat	127 tins of Beans
25 tins of Chopped Ham	40 tins of Carrots
34 tins Stewed Steak	123 tins of Tomatoes
2 tins of Mor	2 tins of Plums
82½ lbs Sausage	104½ lbs. of Prunes
1 tin of Ready Dinner	1 lb. of Lemon Cheese
2 jars of Meat Paste	6½ lbs. of Rice
6 tins of Salmon (Grade 1)	26 packets Cake Mixture
1,712 tins Evaporated Milk	2 tins of Spaghetti
322 lbs of Cheese	12 tins of Tongue
½ lb. of Lard	25¾ lbs. Bacon
4 lbs. of Peas (Dried)	1 tin Tang
27 tins of Vegetables	1 tin Roast Beef
21 tins of Pineapples	58 tins of Soup
12½ stones Flour	5 tins Fishcake Roll

6 packets Cereals	122½ dozen eggs
1¼ lbs. of Yeast	3 lbs. of Margarine
165 tins of Luncheon Meat	96 tins of Peas
224 lbs. Cooked Ham	11 tins of Beetroot
28 tins Prem	5½ lbs. of Biscuits
1 tin of Brisket Beef	1 tin of Oranges
1 tin of Ready Meal	33 lbs. of Jam
1 tin of Gallatine Roll	19 lbs. of Sugar
5 tins of Sardines	2 lbs. of Cake
1 tin of Salmon (Grade 2)	2 bottles of Sauce
80 tins Condensed Milk	1 tin of Macaroni
4¼ lbs. of Butter	

The general condition of stores and shops throughout the District still continues to be good.

SECTION F.
PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.
NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1942.
 (Other than Tuberculosis).
 Age and Sex incidence.

DISEASE		0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	Over 65	Totals	Removed to Hospital	Died
Scarlet Fever	M	—	2	1	3	—	20	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	35	31	—
	F	—	1	2	4	8	20	9	4	2	—	1	—	—	51	44	—
Diphtheria	M	—	—	1	—	3	10	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	21	1
	F	—	—	1	—	1	12	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	17	17	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Acute Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia	M	—	1	1	—	1	2	1	2	—	4	4	3	4	23	—	*19
	F	1	1	1	3	—	4	1	1	—	1	2	—	2	17	—	* 9
Puerperal Pyrexia	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	2	—	—	—	11	11	—
Erysipelas	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	5	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	4	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	†	—
	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	†	—
Whooping Cough	M	3	6	3	5	8	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	40	—	—
	F	2	9	2	15	9	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	57	—	2
Measles	M	5	14	12	22	15	45	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	117	—	—
	F	7	11	12	17	23	48	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	119	—	1
TOTALS		27	45	36	69	68	196	29	13	12	7	9	7	9	527	126	33

* These figures include deaths from all forms of pneumonia

† These cases are reported to the County Medical Officer

There were 527 notifications of infectious diseases (excluding tuberculosis) during the year compared with 984 in 1941 and 959 in 1940. The fall was mainly due to the greatly diminished numbers of measles and whooping cough cases.

DIPHTHERIA.

Thirty-eight cases of diphtheria were confirmed at the isolation hospital, where all were treated. Nineteen occurred in the months of January, February, November and December. There were 11 in Armthorpe, 7 in Askern, 5 in Wadworth, 3 each in Rossington and Braithwell, 2 each in Barnby Dun-with-Kirk Sandall and Edlington, 1 each in Barnborough, Bawtry, Norton, Sprotborough and Warmsworth.

On the whole we can say that diphtheria was at a low level of incidence for the district for the third successive year. This is no doubt due to the lasting effect of immunisation. By the end of the year (1942) the percentages of immunised had been raised to 44 under five years and 56 among the five-to-fifteens. The corresponding figures for 30th June, 1943, are 46 per cent. under five and 63 per cent. of the five-to-fifteen group. Following extensive propaganda in the press, cinema and on the radio, these percentages rose sharply for a time. At the moment of writing the increase is not so great. The remaining unimmunised include die-hard opponents of all forms of inoculation and a goodly number of parents, who are indifferent upon the matter. One feels entitled to make this statement following the recent house to house canvass by health visitors, and the poor results attending the extension of facilities to parents whereby immunisation can be carried out free of charge in their own homes by their own doctors. There are also seven child welfare centres (for location and days of attendance, see pages 9 and 10) and thirty schools offering free immunisation. In fact there is no reason, apart from apathy and antipathy, why the whole population under fifteen should not be safeguarded against diphtheria.

Two of the thirty-eight cases proved fatal. Neither of the fatal cases had been immunised.

SCARLET FEVER.

Eighty-six cases were confirmed during the year, of whom seventy-five were removed to hospital. The number of cases being treated at home is gradually increasing. This tendency is one which is being encouraged in the light of the results of modern research into the nature of the casual organisms and past experience in hospital isolation. It is not to be assumed from this statement that the ideal would be isolation at home for every case. The factors which should be taken into account are the occupations of the rest of the family (particularly with reference to the milk

trade), nursing facilities at home in relation to the severity of the illness, other susceptible children at home, and the housing conditions. All factors being equal, it is more difficult to prevent a child coming into contact with fresh infection in an isolation hospital than in the home. Therefore, when conditions are favourable home treatment should be encouraged.

There was no death among the notified cases. The parishes having the greatest incidence were Barnby Dun-with-Kirk Sandall 21, Armthorpe and Rossington 14 each, Askern 12, Sprotborough 5, and Edlington 4.

On the whole it was a moderately quiet year for scarlet fever. The total number of cases was about one half of the figures for 1936 and 1937.

MEASLES.

236 notifications of measles were received. About three-fourths of the cases occurred in the last three months of the year. Armthorpe with 73, Sprotborough 49, Warmsworth 20, Barnby Dun-with-Kirk Sandall 17, Askern 13, Old Denaby 12, were the parishes principally affected.

There was no call for additional nursing facilities for any part of the district and the schools were not affected to any appreciable degree. Only one death resulted.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

Compared with the previous year when 275 were recorded, the 97 of the year under review would appear to represent a much lower incidence. A large number of cases, however, being mild and unrecognised are not notified. Many of the parents of the children so affected are genuinely surprised when told to isolate them at home. Other parents, however, are indifferent or incredulous and inclined to resentment. Because of these mild and unrecognised cases the control of whooping cough remains, and will remain, a difficult administrative problem. The vigilance of school nurses and health visitors and the enforcement of isolation in the home at least are the measures most likely to give results. There is some hope that improvement in the present vaccine may give a higher degree of immunity. My own experience at child welfare clinics to date is that the present vaccine is well worth while.

Two children died and many others had distressing complications such as broncho-pneumonia and convulsions.

Sharp attacks of whooping cough call for careful nursing and accommodation at the isolation hospital for such cases is necessary.

OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The acute primary and influenzal forms of pneumonia provided 40 cases with a high mortality rate. The number of deaths

from pneumonia continues to be disappointingly high in spite of use of the new sulphonamide drugs. Taking 1938 as the last of the pre-sulphonamide era, the following is the position for the Doncaster Rural District:—

Year	No. of Deaths	Year	No. of Deaths
1934	29	1939	17
1935	22	1940	22
1936	29	1941	32
1937	24	1942	28
1938	30		

Few cases were treated in hospital although facilities for careful nursing in the average home in the district are not such as to make home treatment the desirable procedure in so many instances.

There was a marked fall in the number of notifications of puerperal pyrexia and of cerebro-spinal meningitis. The number of cases of ophthalmia neonatorum increased sharply.

SCABIES.

Over 600 cases of this infestation were reported to us by school medical officers, medical practitioners, health visitors and school attendance officers. During the earlier part of the year facilities for treatment at first aid posts had not been established and the treatment was carried out at home by advice and supervision, the majority of the houses in the district having baths. Later, scabies treatment clinics were established at First Aid Posts at Edlington, Armthorpe, Askern, and Kirk Sandall in co-operation with the West Riding County Council. An arrangement for the use of similar clinics in the Doncaster County Borough was entered into to serve uncovered areas in the District.

The number of new cases is now steadily declining. Evacuees are treated at the White House Hostel, Armthorpe.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1942.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 5 yrs.	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	3
5 and under 15 yrs.	1	2	2	3	—	—	—	—
15 and under 25 yrs.	4	5	1	1	—	2	—	—
25 and under 35 yrs.	7	3	2	—	3	2	—	—
35 and under 45 yrs.	4	1	—	1	5	—	—	—
45 and under 55 yrs.	7	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
55 and under 65 yrs.	4	—	—	—	3	—	1	—
65 and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	27	11	7	8	14	4	1	3

There were 53 new cases of tuberculosis (M. 34; F. 19) compared with 59 in 1941, 43 in 1940, and an annual average of 66 for the five years prior to the War.

36 of the new cases were under the age of 35 when notified.

The occupations of the new cases were given as follows:—

MALE—13 Miners; 2 Haulage Hands; 2 Munition Workers; 2 Ex-Service Men; 1 Colliery Surface Worker; 1 Colliery Lamp Man; 1 Bricklayer; 1 Painter; 1 Plasterer; 1 Machine Turner; 1 Club Steward; 1 Iron Moulder; 1 Motor Driver; 3 School Boys; 2 Pre-School Boys; 1 Occupation not stated.

Total: 34

FEMALE—7 Housewives; 3 Domestics; 1 Drawing Office Tracer; 5 School Girls; 3 Pre-School Girls.

Total: 19

There were 22* deaths from tuberculosis (M. 15; F. 7) during the year compared with 32 in 1941, 24 in 1940 and an annual average of 28 in the five years preceding the War.

At the beginning of the year there were on the register 278 cases (M. 163; F. 115), and on December 31st 300 cases (M. 176; F. 124).

At the end of three years of war the position with regard to tuberculosis may be regarded as favourable. It is true that the pre-war downward trend in incidence and mortality has ceased, but war-time conditions (longer hours of work, entry of women into industry, anxiety, blackout, and the changes in food) have not so far resulted in a marked deterioration of the position in this district.

*The Registrar General has credited the District with 23, but only 22 can be found in our local records.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1942.

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURN.

CAUSES OF DEATH.						Males	Females
All Causes						232	168
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...					—	—
2.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever					—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever					—	—
4.	Whooping Cough					—	2
5.	Diphtheria					1	1
6.	Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System					15	4
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis ...					1	3
8.	Syphilitic Diseases					1	—
9.	Influenza					7	—
10.	Measles					—	1
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis					—	—
12.	Acute Infectious Encephalitis					1	—
13.	Cancer of Mouth and Gullet (M)						
	Uterus (F)					3	5
14.	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...					9	5
15.	Cancer of Breast					—	6
16.	Cancer of all other Sites					14	8
17.	Diabetes					1	2
18.	Intracranial Vascular Lesions					8	21
19.	Heart Disease					42	40
20.	Other Diseases of the Circulatory System					6	4
21.	Bronchitis					23	3
22.	Pneumonia					19	9
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases					3	3
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum					2	—
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years					5	2
26.	Appendicitis					—	2
27.	Other Digestive Diseases					10	3
28.	Nephritis					8	5
29.	Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis ...					—	—
30.	Other Maternal Causes					—	3
31.	Premature Births					8	6
32.	Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries and						
	Infantile Diseases					7	6
33.	Suicide					1	—
34.	Road Traffic Accidents					6	1
35.	Other Violent Causes					15	7
36.	All Other Causes					16	16

